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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

NAME NEW MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINE BUILDING USSR;  
DEVELOP NEW COTTON-GROWING EQUIPMENT

STEPANOV MADE MINISTER -- Moscow, Pravda, 11 Mar 52

The Supreme Soviet USSR has confirmed the ukase of the Presidium of the  
 Supreme Soviet USSR naming Sergey Aleksandrovich Stepanov Minister of Agricul-  
 tural Machine Building USSR.

DESIGN NEW COTTON SEEDER -- Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 19 Mar 52

The Design Bureau for Cotton, in cooperation with the Central Mechaniza-  
 tion Station of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Cotton Growing,  
 has built new, improved machines for use in cotton growing.

The SKhK combination tractor seeder simultaneously deposits organic and  
 mineral fertilizers in the soil along with the seed. This method of sowing in-  
 creases cotton yield up to 4 centners per hectare.

The scientific workers also developed the NKU-2.8 tractor cultivator.

SHIPS COTTON SEEDERS -- Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 21 Mar 52

The Tashkent Uzbeksels'mash Plant has completed its first-quarter 1952 plan  
 for shipping tractor cotton seeders ahead of time. In this period, the plant  
 shipped 700 more seeders than it did in the corresponding period of 1951.

The first-quarter 1952 output of insecticide sprayers was double the plan.

Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 23 Mar 52

The Tashkent Uzbeksels'mash Plant exceeded its January and February plans  
 for cotton seeders.

Plant workers are striving to complete the 1952 plan for cotton seeders by  
 1 April.

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**IMPROVE COTTON PICKER -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 22 Mar 52**

The State Special Design Bureau for Cotton has designed an improved model of the SKhM-48 cotton picker called the SKhM-48M. The SKhM-48M weighs 400 kilograms less than the old picker. When fitted with high-traction balloon tires, the SKhM-48M can be used on rain-soaked fields.

The new machine reduces the percentage of bolls knocked off the bushes; also, the picking apparatus is automatically maintained at the correct level. Working conditions for the operator are better with the new machine.

The Tashsel'mash Plant imeni Voroshilov has accepted the new machines for series production and will produce a large consignment of them in 1952.

**TEST COTTON-DISINFECTING MACHINES -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 13 Mar 52**

The Zaporozh'ye Kommunar Plant has built the first group of new SP-3 machines for dry treatment of cotton seeds. The machine, which was designed by the All-Union Central Scientific Research Institute of the Cotton Industry, has successfully passed tests at the Andizhan Cotton-Cleaning Plant.

**MAKES SHARPENER FOR COTTON-PROCESSING EQUIPMENT -- Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 2 Mar 52**

The Tashsel'mash Plant makes a machine for sharpening the saws of cotton gins and linters without disassembling the saw shaft. The machine sharpens 21 teeth simultaneously.

The Tashkent Avtotraktorodetal' Plant will series-produce the machines.

**BOOST COMBINE OUTPUT -- Smolensk, Rabochiy Put', 28 Dec 51**

The Krasnoyarsk Self-Propelled Combine Plant completed its 1951 plan on 26 December, and produced 25 percent more combines than in 1950. The plant saved more than 1,600,000 rubles in 1951 by cutting production costs.

**CUTS COSTS -- Moscow, Pravda, 25 Mar 52**

The Gomel' Agricultural Machine Building Plant fulfilled its 1951 plan ahead of time, lowered the labor consumption of agricultural machines 21 percent, and cut production costs 25 percent, as compared with 1950.

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